

REMARKS

Amendments have been made above to the claims to correct the typographical errors in claim dependency. Applicants do not believe the amendments introduce new matter. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In formal compliance with the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect with traverse group V, claims 41-44, drawn to a transgenic vertebrate, more specifically a mouse or cell cultures therefrom comprising an expression vector comprising a short hairpin RNA construct under control of a ubiquitous promoter, stably integrated into its genome, preferably at a polymerase II dependent locus of the mouse.

As to the election of species, Applicants also elect the species "RNase P RNA promoter" (middle of page 4 of the restriction requirement) and the "inducible promoter" (top of page 5 of the restriction requirement).

With respect to the RNase P RNA promoter, claims 14-23, 25-35 and 37-44 are believed to be generic to the elected species.

With respect to the inducible promoter, claims 14-25, 27-31 and 33-44 are believed to be generic to the elected species.

Regarding the traversal, Applicants reserve the right to present evidence at a later time proving that Paddington is not, in fact, prior art.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully point out that the method of group I relates to the integration of an expression vector comprising a short hairpin RNA construct into the genome of a vertebrate, a tissue culture or a cell embraced by the in-vitro production method of the transgenic vertebrate of group V. Thus, the method of group I is closely connected with the

invention of group V and the two groups should be examined together. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that at a minimum the Examiner should combine these two groups I and V and examine both applications together in this single application.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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